

which the Erie is now under contract, thus per-

petuating the coal monopoly.

The President has recognized Gregorio Dominguez

as Consul for Ecuador at New York.

Governor Hoffman will deliver the address before

the Saratoga Agricultural Society at its annual fair,

September 9.

At Mattoon, Ill., during the eclipse on Saturday,

the mercury fell forty-two degrees in one hour.

Great distress prevails among the poor of Wash-

ington, and some are already perishing from the want

of the necessities of life. Since April last 550 fami-

lies per month, averaging two persons to each fam-

ily, have been relieved by the National Freed-

men's Relief Association.

General Rosecrans has declined the Democratic

nomination for Governor of Ohio. His letter of de-

clination indicates that he does not consider himself

a citizen of that State. The Democratic State Central

Committee will meet at Columbus on Wednesday

next to take action in regard to making a new nomi-

nation.

The City.

Thomas Shields, living in Jackson's alley, Brooklyn,

was arrested yesterday on a charge of causing the

death of his wife, Catharine, by neglecting to pro-

vide the necessities of life for her. The wretched

woman died from sheer destitution and want.

Walter Brown, the champion oarsman of America,

left this city on Saturday last by the Inman steamer

for Liverpool, to row a match for the championship

of England.

Ground will be broken to-day for the new Post

Office. It is reported that arrangements have been

contaminated by which the building will be located

upon, leaving that amount of additional space for

the rapidly increasing business at the lower end of

the Park.

Last evening the steamer Rip Van Winkle, on her

return from the Fishing Banks, when opposite Jersey

City, ran down a sailboat containing six persons.

The steamer's course was stopped and a boat's crew

rescued from their imminent peril.

Prominent Arrivals in the City.

Commander John Waters, T. W. Trevor, P. L. Van-

derbilt and E. McCormick, of the United States

Navy; G. W. Griffin, of the United States Army; D.

Knights, of San Francisco; A. J. Riggs, of Nevada,

and H. R. Purley, of Texas, are at the Metropolitan

Hotel.

Captain Edgar N. Wilcox, of the United States

Army; Major D. W. Hughes, of Boston, and H. C.

Bates, of Quebec, are at the St. Charles Hotel.

J. H. Campbell and Benjamin Harrett, of Philadel-

phia; General Sullivan, late United States Consul at

Buenos Ayres, and W. B. Crane, of New York, are

at the Astor House.

Professor Thorpe, of St. Louis; Colonel Campbell,

of Toronto, and Professor Williams, of Cambridge,

are at the St. Julien Hotel.

The Cabinet Meeting on Tuesday—What

Does It Mean?

We learn by telegram from Washington that a

Cabinet meeting will be held on Tuesday

next, at which nearly all the members are ex-

pected to be present, and when the most im-

portant subject for consideration will be the

Cuban question and our relations with Spain

with regard to it. Considering that the Pres-

ident and the members of the Cabinet are away

from the seat of government in different direc-

tions, taking, as the rest of the world takes at

this season, some recreation, there is reason

to believe this sudden return and holding a full

Cabinet council has some unusual significance.

The question naturally arises, what does it

mean? What new movement about Cuba and

Spain? It is said the call for the meeting has

special reference to this subject.

The removal of Admiral Hoff from the com-

mand of the United States squadron in the

Gulf and around Cuba immediately after the

seizure of the Spanish gunboats which were

under construction in this country indicates a

change of policy relative to Cuba. We do not

know what the nature of the instructions to

Admiral Hoff were since he was put in com-

mand of the Gulf squadron, and he may have

been only doing his duty under them; but we

do know that our fleet was doing service for

Spain more than protecting American citizens

or American interests. If there be a change

of policy, therefore, on the part of the govern-

ment about Cuba, as there seems to be, it is

consistent and proper that another officer

should be placed in command of the Gulf

squadron. The most suitable man, probably,

for that important post just now is Admiral

Porter. In connection with these movements

we may notice the language of the Secretary

of State in his address at Newburg on Satur-

day, implying that he was prepared to recog-

nize and follow public sentiment. Mr. Fish

said, "if the people of my own State and of the United States will be

pleased to bear with my infirmities I shall in

all things defer to their better judgment,

and believe that their judgment has con-

firmed them in the right." It is not known

whether the Secretary had or had not in his

mind Cuba and the fact that public sentiment

is strongly in favor of the Cuban cause; but

as this is the most prominent subject now

engaging the public mind it is reasonable to

suppose he had. At any rate he emphatically

recognized the justice and right of popular

opinion and his duty to conform to it. In a word,

the Secretary proclaims his faith in the old

doctrine of *vox populi vox Dei*. If by his

infirmities he means his shortcomings hereto-

fore on the question of Cuba, the people will

be prepared to forgive him, as he desires,

should be from this time forth follow public

sentiment and conform to the public will.

Looking at the action of the government in

seizing the Spanish gunboats we cannot doubt

that it is to be followed up by more decided

and vigorous measures with a view to aid,

indirectly at least, the Cuban patriots, so as to

secure ultimately the independence and annex-

ation of Cuba. The pretext for seizing these

gunboats is good enough for all diplomatic

purposes, but there must have been another

motive or *arrive pense* for the action. We do

not suppose the Peruvian Minister was much

afraid of these vessels going round Cape

Horn to attack his country or that the admin-

istration really apprehended such a contin-

gency; but it was fair enough to seize them on

this pretext and will answer all the purposes

of diplomatic palaver. However, the Ameri-

can people understand that it is a movement

in favor of Cuba, and so it will be understood

by Spain and the world. The administration,

then, is committed to the cause of Cuba.

It cannot go back without humiliation

and the contempt of the world. It must go

forward; for if by any chance the

Cubans should fail to secure their

independence through the timidity or inaction

of the United States, after our government has

taken this step, we should be laughed at for our

weakness by all nations.

It is said that the Cabinet council to be held

on Tuesday will also discuss the question as to

what further instructions should be sent to our

Minister at Madrid. If the recent news from

Spain can be relied upon, to the effect that

the Spanish government had set its face

against parting with Cuba on any conditions,

further instructions on this matter to General

Sickles would be useless. We hope, however,

the government of Spain is not so blind to

what is transpiring in Cuba and to the impos-

sibility of holding that island much longer. Cuba

can never more be useful to Spain as a colony

if even the insurrection could be put down,

which is not at all likely; while as an independ-

ent State or as a portion of the United States

she might have a considerable trade with the

island. The United States have been far more

valuable to England in this respect than they

would have been as colonies. But, however

wise or unwise Spain may be with regard to

Cuba and to the efforts of the United States to

stop bloodshed and the ruin of the island, our

government has but one course to follow, and

that is to act in accordance with the almost

unanimous sentiment of the country. Cuba

must be free, and, if necessary, through the

action of this republic. Spain would not be so

inane as to go to war with us, and would

yield to necessity if the government should fol-

low up boldly its present course. On this

question the administration can make itself

popular, as all parties are for Cuba. The

press of Europe even acknowledge that the

independence or acquisition of the island

through the interposition of the United States

is the only solution of the difficulty. Will the

Cabinet council on Tuesday decide to go for-

ward in this matter or to stand still? That is

the question. We think it will see that its

duty and interest lie in acting in conformity

with public sentiment.

The Eclipse.

The eclipse has been quite a success. It has

passed off in a manner to gratify the highest

expectation. We have had a grand and rare

sensation; and the world has not been de-

stroyed, nor have the signs of the approaching

end been multiplied. Scientific men have had

their dearest wish gratified; they have wit-

nessed a solar eclipse and made their observa-

tions in the most favorable circumstances, and

seekers after knowledge are hopeful that as

the result our stock of astronomical knowl-

edge will be greatly increased. All along the

belt, wherever scientific parties had stationed

themselves, observations were made with suc-

cess, and accurate photographs were taken of

the different phases of the eclipse.

The observations seem to have